

SENATE RESOLUTION 17

By Harper

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the members of the Black Methodists for Church Renewal for their faithful service to God and this great State.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their members who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the good people of the Black Methodists for Church Renewal comprise one such estimable organization that was founded in 1968 by the National Conference of Negro Methodists in response to the serious and sensitive concerns of the delegates; and

WHEREAS, by founding an on-going ad hoc structure, the Black Methodists for Church Renewal define issues and explore strategies for helping the United Methodist Church to become effective on the local, national, and global level, and delegates promote church unity, religious piety, and faithful community service; and

WHEREAS, the current officers of the Black Methodists for Church Renewal are President Kimi Brown, Vice Chairman of Programs Joe K. Shelton, Secretary Rachel Hill, and Treasurer Victor Franklin; and

WHEREAS, the Black Methodists for Church Renewal is committed to empowering black Methodists for effective witness and service within the church community and world, combating racism and racist practices, and working for social and economic injustice; and

WHEREAS, as a Caucus of the United Methodist Church, the Black Methodists for Church Renewal addresses social concerns through a network of National, Jurisdictional, and

Annual Conference bodies; these concerns include congregational development, leadership development, the black family, black scholars, and advocacy for social justice; and

WHEREAS, representing approximately 300,000 black United Methodists, the Black Methodists for Church Renewal continually calls all people to repentance and faithful service; and

WHEREAS, this venerable religious organization holds a vital position in Tennessee's history and its members have long made prominent contributions to the civic, educational, and social fabric of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, it is truly one of the great religious institutions and catalysts for positive spiritual change in our State and Nation, and the members of this exceptional organization should be appropriately honored for their exemplary service to their fellow Christians and to the good people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and honor the members of the Black Methodists for Church Renewal for their faithful service to God and this great State and nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.